

EXPERTS URGE REAL  
FIRE PROTECTION

Head of the Architects' League  
Indorses Demand Voiced  
Through The Tribune.

RUDOLPH P. MILLER BACK

J. W. Alexander Points to Heavy  
Losses—Workers Will Hold  
Fire Drills—Insurance  
Men Favor Reforms.

William A. Boring, president of the Architects' League, said yesterday that he was in heartiest accord with the new movement for new legislation to safeguard the lives of working people. A special meeting of the Architectural League will be called immediately and a committee will be appointed to formulate practical recommendations.

The "fire drill idea" in factories, received the indorsement of the associations representing both the employers and employees of the garment workers' industry, and the Board of Sanitary Control of the cloak and suit industry began arrangements for the immediate prosecution of the idea in the factories of the city.

Fire Marshal Beers and District Attorney Whitman continued their official investigations of the Asch Building tragedy, and it was testified in the latter inquiry that the emergency fire apparatus in the building was useless, on account of rotten hose and absence of water in the emergency pipes.

Coroner Winterbottom, who lives in the neighborhood of the disaster, declared that the work of the police on that occasion was so slow and inefficient that the speed of the Fire Department was seriously hampered.

Rudolph P. Miller, Superintendent of Buildings, returned to the city yesterday, and immediately began to review the work of his department in connection with the Asch Building and the fire. He will make a report on it within the next two days to Borough President McAneny.

William A. Boring, a well known architect and president of the Architects' League, said yesterday that he was in the heartiest accord with the demand voiced through The Tribune for new legislation that would safeguard the lives of working people and prevent a repetition of the catastrophe that took place on Saturday last.

A special meeting of the Architectural League will be called by Mr. Boring immediately, and resolutions will be submitted directing the appointment of a committee to formulate practical recommendations, bring them before the Legislature, and ask for their embodiment in new regulations.

The principal recommendations Mr. Boring himself will make to the league, and which will doubtless be made a basis of the final resolutions, were described by Mr. Boring yesterday. He said the fundamental fault lay not in the modern buildings, but that the danger was brought in through their occupation.

"The principal need is a regulation that would prevent people working too far from the means of escape. Take, for instance, a large loft building like the one in which so many lives were lost on Saturday. The girls in the center of the room were a considerable distance from the exits, and when the fire spread rapidly through the highly inflammable materials on the floor flames and smoke filled the whole room and cut off retreat before the girls could recover from the first shock.

Subdivide Big Lofts.

"These large lofts should be subdivided into smaller rooms by fireproof walls, with fireproof exit doors with wire glass panels in them. The room in the center of the floor and any others from which exit would be difficult should be used for storage only.

"As to the means of escape in case of emergency," Mr. Boring continued, "nothing should be considered as an additional safeguard that depends on inefficient action of people. Elevators should be absolutely disregarded. The only reliable means of escape in case of fire is a staircase entirely inclosed in a shaft of fireproof walls. This staircase should be continued to the ground. Large doorlike openings should be provided on each floor leading to outside balconies. These openings should be left entirely free. A balcony of iron covered with fireproof material, so as to prevent warping and overheating, should connect these openings with doors into the building. These doors could be constructed to open only from the inside, so as to prevent any possibility of getting into the building over the fire escape from the outside, a consideration that often leads owners of lofts to the dangerous plan of having the fire escape.

His School Fire Escape.

"In a school I built I have placed such a fire escape, and the doors, although they are bolted from the inside, are so arranged that mere pressing against them from the inside will force them out, though they cannot be pulled open from the balcony. With such an arrangement people in a building can get out on the balcony without trouble, and with a few steps over a solid floor, and not a flimsy iron grating, they can get to a stairway where, at the worst, only a few whiffs of smoke can follow them, so they are perfectly secure from heat and flames during their descent to the street.

A stairway three feet wide is sufficient to let two persons pass at a time, and if it were constructed according to tenement house regulations it

## WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

Fireproof buildings, whether factories or tenements, are not safe without ample exits, protected from the reach of flames, and of quick, easy and familiar access. There are thousands of buildings in this city as well fitted for fire resistance as the Asch Building. In any one of them, Chief Croker has said, last Saturday's disaster may be repeated. Some comply with the law. Perhaps most of them do, in some respects.

But only constant supervision will insure compliance with certain parts of the law—the parts relating to locked doors and free access to exits and fire escapes. And until full authority and full responsibility are vested in some official or department violations of the law will continue.

The Rev. Dr. Charles L. Slatery, of Grace Church, addressing a memorial meeting for the victims of the fire yesterday, said: "The result of this fire we all prayed would be a better condition; that they who died would not have died in vain, and civic pride would rise to the emergency and insist upon improved conditions."

Chief Croker warned New York after the Newark disaster that it faced the probability of a worse calamity. He was a true prophet. He has repeated that warning.

WILL IT BE IGNORED BY THIS COMMUNITY, AS HIS FIRST PREDICTION WAS? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

PEACE EULOGIZED AT  
BIBLE TERCENTENARY

The American Ambassador Addresses Great Meeting at  
Albert Hall, London.

TAFT'S IMPRESSIVE LETTER

Bible, Greatest Guarantee of  
Peace, Says Ambassador Reid  
—American the Evangel  
of Arbitration.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)  
London, March 29.—The most impressive incident of the mass meeting in Albert Hall this evening in commemoration of the tercentenary of the authorized version of the Bible was a message from President Taft.

The religious and literary aspects of the celebration were of unique interest, because less perfunctory, and enabled the great representative English assemblage to honor the name of an American as the evangel of absolute arbitration.

There were intimations of what was coming when Mr. Reid, the American Ambassador, after comparing the English version of the Bible with the subjects of other commemorations of recent times, declared that it furnished the strongest and the most indestructible bonds for the present practical unity of the English speaking family of nations in aims and aspirations.

Greatest Peace Guarantee.

The audience was stirred at once, and sympathy with pacific diplomacy increased when Mr. Reid added that the community feeling, starting from the common use and possession of the English Bible, was the greatest single guarantee for the peace and progress of the world.

The enthusiasm was unbounded when the Ambassador, with deepening voice, declared that from the men and from the whole peoples nurtured on the precepts of the Bible, mainly on the Authorized Version, came the statesmanlike proposal of President Taft and the inspiring response of King George through Sir Edward Grey which promised to make war as a settlement of disputes between English speaking peoples impossible and between any other civilized nations incredible. The vast audience applauded heartily the Ambassador's exclamation that no nobler jewel can adorn the coming coronation.

There was no direct reference as yet to President Taft's message. That came after the Ambassador had explained with lucidity and force how the Authorized Version had inspired the energies of American settlers and remained the book from which the most effective speakers constantly drew figures and illustrations for reaching the popular heart.

Taft Warmly Applauded.

A striking passage was quoted from Thomas Corwin's speeches, and another from the reply of Abraham Lincoln to a negro delegation, which presented him with a Bible during the civil war. These utterances were warmly received.

## THE WESTERN WING OF THE STATE CAPITOL BURNING.

(Photograph by Underwood & Underwood.)



RUINS OF THE REAR WALL OF THE CAPITOL, SHOWING WHERE THE ROOF FELL IN ON THE STATE LIBRARY'S QUARTERS.  
(Photograph by Paul Thompson.)

## WALDO OUTLINES HIS PLAN.

Fire Commissioner Says New  
Laws Are Imperative.

Fire Commissioner Waldo outlined yesterday what he believed to be imperative changes in legislation affecting fire fighting and fire prevention. To make them effective, he urged that power be given the Fire Department to enforce the installation of every appliance that would work toward the saving of life, as that to prevent such disasters as that at Washington Place.

The Commissioner summed up his recommendations in three divisions. First, removal of the causes of fire, such as improper accumulation of rubbish, unsafe lighting and heating, smoking in dangerous places, carelessness in the use of oils, improper storage of explosives and highly inflammable materials; second, safeguarding by the introduction of appliances for the immediate discovery, retarding and extinguishment of fire, such as automatic fire alarms for detecting fires, automatic sprinklers for extinguishing and holding fires in check and hand appliances for use under the protection of automatic sprinklers, stand pipes and hose, self-closing fireproof doors, fire strips and regulation inspection to compel the maintenance of safe conditions; and third, means of escape—adequate exterior fire escapes or tower fire escapes, or properly inclosed stairs with self-closing fireproof doors, opening outward, sufficient to enable portions of the building on fire to be emptied promptly.

## BURROUGHS CLIMBS MT. WILSON

Aged Naturalist, Refusing to Ride,  
"Hits" the Trail.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Los Angeles, March 29.—John Burroughs, the naturalist, who is seventy-four years old, proved his mettle yesterday by walking to the summit of Mount Wilson from Sierra Madre, a distance of more than nine miles. Desiring to visit the solar observatory and see the trail at his leisure, he refused to ride to the summit, 6,290 feet above sea level. He reached the crest in good condition and after a short rest began an inspection of the mountain a day or two to obtain night views of the heavens.

## "BIG BILL" EDWARDS ENOUGH.

"Big Bill" Edwards, United States of America, this was the only address upon a letter which was on the desk of Commissioner Edwards of the Street Cleaning Department when he reached his office yesterday. The letter read:

"I am sending this letter from Port Said to see if this address won't find you. I have made a bet of \$10 it will, so keep the envelope until I return." It was signed by J. C. Hemmatt.

## REMOVE 6,184 GALLSTONES.

Richmond, Va., March 29.—Surgeons expressed amazement at the case of W. F. Jenkins, electrical inventor, from whom exactly 6,184 gallstones were removed by an operation last night. Dr. Stuart McLean and a nurse spent two and a half hours today counting the stones.

## NO CITY OPTION IN OHIO.

Columbus, Ohio, March 29.—Liberals witnessed today the failure of another effort to amend the Roke county option law so as to allow cities to vote separately on railroads. The House by a vote of 25 to 40 defeated the Fulton bill providing exemption of cities of 5,000 or more.

## SHRIEKS HALT MEETING

Uproar at Memorial for Fire Victims  
in Grand Central Palace.

## SEVERAL SURVIVORS FAINT

Breaking Point Comes When  
1,000 Rise to Pay Minute's  
Silent Tribute to Dead.

The memorial meeting for the victims of the Washington Place fire was almost broken up last night at the Grand Central Palace when half a dozen of the girls who had escaped from the disaster broke the peace of hysteresis and nearly created a panic with their shrieks. Several of the young women fainted and had to be carried out into the side aisles where they were quickly revived. It was due only to the soothing influence of the police and the ushers that the scores of other women who had reached a stage of quiet weeping were not driven into an outbreak of hysteria through suggestion.

The meeting was held at the call of the Ladies Waist and Dressmakers' Union. Despite the heavy rain more than one thousand men and women attended the meeting, and among them were many of the young women who so narrowly escaped with their lives on Saturday. Some of them were seated on the platform, while others occupied seats in the first few rows on the floor.

Beginning with the introductory speech of Jacob Panken, who presided, harrowing descriptions of the disaster racked the nerves of the women in whose mind the whole terror of the event could not have been obliterated in the few days that have passed since the fatal hour. Their faces began to twitch and quiver, and when Abraham Cahen finished a speech in Yiddish, in which he pictured the sorrow of the mothers of the victims, the girls were ready to break down on the least provocation.

This came when Mr. Panken asked the audience to rise for a minute in honor to the memory of the dead. They rose and stood in a sorrowful silence. Five or six seconds passed before the first sob was heard, then a shiver seemed to go through every member of the assembly and the shrieks of hysterical women rang out from the platform and among those on the floor. Some of the women fell back in a faint, and men rushed toward them with a desire to help. Every one was on his feet, and a panic seemed possible.

The policemen who had been leaning against the walls in the rear all evening marched slowly through the aisles toward the groups that had quickly formed around the fainting women. They quietly requested all to sit down, and then aided in having the swooning girls carried out of the audience, where fresh air and a drink of cold water soothed their shaken nerves.

## MINNESOTA KILLS SUFFRAGE BILL.

St. Paul, March 29.—The woman's suffrage bill was killed in the State Senate this afternoon by a vote of 22 to 26.

MURPHY SURE STETSON  
HAS BEEN EVIL GENIUS

Accuses Him of Being the Mysterious  
Power Which Prevented  
Sheehan's Election.

## LINKS HIM WITH INTERESTS

Tammany Boss Willing to Permit  
Election of a Senator  
This Week if He Can Control  
Insurgents.

Charles F. Murphy, leader of Tammany Hall, made public in his home, No. 365 East 17th street, last night a bitter statement, in which he charges Francis Lynde Stetson with trying to wreck the Democratic party in this state. He accuses Mr. Stetson of being the "mysterious power" who has frustrated the attempts to unite the Democratic legislators in the election of William F. Sheehan to the United States Senate, and attacks him for aiding in an attempt to bring about a coalition between the Insurgents and the Republicans.

In the statement Mr. Stetson is connected with many corporate activities, and it is asserted that he is "the personification of the interests."

When the Murphy statement was brought to the attention of Mr. Stetson in his home, No. 4 East 74th street, last night he smiled and said:

"Mr. Murphy is entitled to form and express any opinion of me he sees fit. I think he is largely justified in his resentment. I am a free American citizen and am not a candidate for any office.

"As to the assertion that I organized the Steel Trust and the Harvester Trust, I am pleased to say that it is true, and I am proud of it. I do not care to go into the details of the statement, however."

Murphy's statement follows:

For more than two and one-half months the Democratic party has been engaged in an effort, by virtue of the commission given to it by the people at the polls in November, to elect a representative of the party to the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Senator Depew.

From the very beginning, the party in favor of the nomination of the candidate have been frustrated by some mysterious power, which has remained in the background and caused Mr. Sheehan to be assailed by every conceivable form of abuse.

All efforts to discover the identity of the man really responsible for this action have been in vain until yesterday, when, with brazen effrontery, Charles Lynde Stetson, a political parasite, stepped into the limelight and boldly assumed charge of the entire movement.

Not satisfied with his work in preventing the Democratic party from making a choice for Senator, Mr. Stetson, now, working openly with Frank H. Platt, son of former Senator Platt and twenty years the representative in Albany of the corporation—until he was driven out of power by the people in making a deal with the Republican machine to elect a man of his own selection for United States Senator—has the avowed purpose of destroying the Democratic party in the state and finishing his "lifelong struggle" to break down Tammany Hall.

Plays Stetson as Trust Maker.

Calling to his aid all the disgruntled Democrats in the state and with the assistance of several New York papers, which have been trying for years to destroy the Democratic organization, this man's campaign has been to elect a man of his own selection for United States Senator—has the avowed purpose of destroying the Democratic party in the state and finishing his "lifelong struggle" to break down Tammany Hall.

Is he the same man who organized, as counsel, the Steel Trust, the greatest piece of stock watering and stock jobbing in modern times, and which is just about to be investigated by the Congress of the United States? Is he the same man who is the attorney at once for J. Pierpont Morgan and for Thomas F. Ryan?

Who is the man who organized the Northern Securities Company, which the Supreme Court of the United States held to be an illegal trust, and who has since been ordered to be dissolved?

CAPITOL AT ALBANY  
SWEEP BY FLAMES

## STATE HAD NO INSURANCE.

The State of New York carried no insurance on the Capitol. The building had been regarded as absolutely fireproof.

No criticism of the fire resisting qualities of the building itself has been heard. It was not the building that burned, but its contents, and these contents in the section where the fire started were of the most inflammable materials—wooden shelving, books, pamphlets and loose papers.

## RUSSIAN TOWN ATTACKED?

Chinese Surround Capital of  
Amoor, Is Rumor.

St. Petersburg, March 29.—A rumor was current to-night that the Chinese had surrounded and were attacking Blagovestchensk, capital of the Amoor Province, on the Amoor River, in Asiatic Russia. The rumor is without confirmation.

Blagovestchensk is situated close to Manchuria. It is chosen infected, and some trouble has arisen between the Russians and Chinese over the epidemic and quarantine measures. This town was unsuccessfully attacked by the Chinese in 1906, during the Boxer trouble.

## EIGHT MEN TO LIFT A WOMAN

Put Her 300 Pounds in Ambulance  
and Traffic Moves Again.

Rain was coming down in torrents and streaks of blinding lightning were forking earthward at Second avenue and 117th street last evening about 5:30 o'clock, when Mrs. Kate Shea, a widow, of No. 323 East 117th street, went down in a heap on the northbound surface car tracks. The last time she stepped on a pair of scales Mrs. Shea weighed three hundred pounds. She was unable to get up off the car tracks and three motor-men from as many blocked cars, were unable to lift her into an ambulance from the Harlem Hospital.

Dr. McCullom sent for four policemen, who, with four motor-men, finally deposited Mrs. Shea in the ambulance. Just prior to this, however, a truck with oats, meal and hay belonging to P. Angeloni & Co., of North Henry street, Astoria, rumbled along, and the driver, happening to peer down over his seat on the off side, saw Mrs. Shea stretched out on the tracks. He pulled up his horses, leaped from the truck and ran like a deer up Second avenue, and disappeared in the rain. He apparently was convinced that he had run the woman down, and was fleeing from arrest.

After the tracks had been cleared and the long line of crowded cars began to move northward, the police took the abandoned truck and the horses attached to the East 126th street station, where it was placed in livery. At the hospital Mrs. Shea was found to have some bruising on her back. She was also suffering from the effects of overmuch drinking.

## EMERSON CROSS SUIT

Wife of Patent Medicine Man  
Asks Divorce.

Baltimore, March 29.—A cross bill for absolute divorce was filed in the Circuit Court here to-day by Mrs. Emeline A. Emerson against Captain Isaac E. Emerson, manager over a proprietary medicine, charging desertion and abandonment. Mrs. Emerson says that she and Captain Emerson have not lived together as man and wife since October, 1904, when the alleged abandonment is said to have begun.

In January last Captain Emerson entered suit for absolute divorce from his wife. Recently Mrs. Emerson filed her answer denying his charges of marital unfaithfulness. Their daughter, Mrs. Smith Hollins McKim, recently obtained a divorce from her husband. A later settlement with Dr. McKim released all interested persons from possible litigation.

## "MOTHER-IN-LAW PLANT"

Boston Suffragists Object to  
Name of Shrub with Odd Powers.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Boston, March 29.—Chester L. Campbell, superintendent in charge of the National Flower Show, in progress at the Garden City Hotel, was besieged by members of the Equal Suffrage Association to-day and asked to have the common or garden name removed from the "Defenbochia plant."

The common name for this remarkable plant is "the mother-in-law plant." It is so called because, it is said, if one were to chew up one of the leaves all power of speech would be destroyed for at least a month.

William Robertson Smith, superintendent of the United States Botanical Gardens at Washington, is authority for this statement. He said to-day that the one small plant on exhibition contained enough poison to kill a buffalo, if he ate it, in ten minutes. The name of "mother-in-law plant" will not be removed.

## TOOK BIBLE FOR POCKETBOOK.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Trenton, N. J., March 29.—Mistaking a Bible for a pocketbook, Charles Kinley snatched it from the hands of Mrs. William F. Salt to-day and is now in the county jail. Mrs. Salt was sitting in a trolley car with the leather bound book in her hands. As the car approached Broad and made for the car, Patrolman Cook, who was a passenger on the car, caught the man after a short chase.

AFTER THE GRIPPE  
Dewey's Port Wine and Olive Oil.  
H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 125 Fulton St., N.Y.  
—Adv't.

Fire Destroyed Only Part of  
Building, but Property Loss  
Was More than \$5,000,000.

## CAUSE IS NOT YET KNOWN

Work of Restoring the Building  
Will Be Begun as Soon as It  
Is Authorized by the  
Legislature.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Albany, March 29.—The last legislator had left the Democratic senatorial caucus scarcely an hour before—early this morning—fire broke out in the western wing of the State Capitol and swept across the entire Washington street, or western, frontage of the big building, on the third and fourth floors. The actual property loss is estimated at between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000, but it is thought repairs to the building may be completed within the former figure.

Thousands of books, state records and historical documents, whose value cannot be measured in money, were devoured by the flames. The greatest damage from the fire centred in the State Library, with its six hundred thousand volumes. The library, which was on the third and fourth floors, was completely destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown.

The fire ate its way into the Assembly chamber, but was extinguished there without much actual damage from the flames. Water and smoke worked havoc, however, in the meeting place of the lower house, and the famous papier maché ceiling bulged out in spots, giving the appearance of sponges clinging to blocks of slate. The huge brass and crystal chandelier in this room crashed to the floor, demolishing many Assemblymen's desks—it fell.

The luxurious chamber of the Senate was not invaded by the flames. The massive panels of the ceiling apparently withstood the tons of water which were poured into the building above the chamber and remained intact. There was only slight water and smoke damage to furnishings in the chamber.

Granite Blasted Away.

Massive granite blocks of the outer walls and the beautifully carved sandstone arches and marble columns in the corridors of the western wing fairly melted away in places from the blasts of intense heat in the path of the flames. The grand western staircase, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars, was badly damaged at the fourth and fifth floors.

The iron framework of the slate roof along the western side of the building twisted and broke from its fastenings from the intense heat, and the roof fell in nearly the whole way across this western frontage. The massive tower on the southwest corner, one of four which lend so much to the architectural beauty of the four angles of the Capitol, crumbled and fell into the building.

One man is undoubtedly buried under the tons of stone and iron which fell from the roof to the fourth floor. He is Samuel J. Abbott, seventy-seven years old, the night watchman in the state library. It was impossible to make a thorough search of that part of the building to-night where his body is thought to be. He has been missing since the fire started, and it is supposed he was caught by the flames and burned to death.

None of the state officials would venture a close estimate of the property loss to-night. State Architect Franklin B. Ware said it was impossible to do so at this time. He said, however, that it would probably be not less than \$5,000,000. Judging from the relative cost of the whole building, which was over \$27,000,000, many estimated the loss at a million or two more than that. Mr. Ware said that in view of the more economical methods of construction which can be employed to-day in the restoration the relative loss might be considerably reduced.

Rivers of Water in Building.

Though the flames swept only one end of the building, the water and smoke damage was heavy throughout the structure. Rivers of water flowed down the western stairways and spread out in a veritable flood over the lower floors. Great streams of murky water ran down Capitol Hill, over the car tracks, and backed up in large pools in most of the side streets in the lower part of the city.

The offices of half a dozen departments housed on the lower floors of the western wing were rendered useless by the water. These included the offices of the State Tax Commissioners, the State Treasurer, the State Lunacy Commission, the Attorney General's office, the headquarters of the national guard on the second floor, the Lieutenant Governor's office and many committee rooms.

Governor Dix's private office was not damaged, but furniture and documents in the adjoining room, occupied by the Governor's secretary, were damaged by water. The Court of Claims and several of the committee rooms of the Senate and Assembly lay in the path of the flames and burned up like so much flimsy.

The State Architect, Mr. Ware, said to-night that the work of restoration would be begun just as soon as the Legislature should authorize the preparation of plans and the making of the necessary contracts. Both houses of the Legislature have taken up temporary quarters in the City Hall, which was proclaimed the temporary State Capitol by a formal resolution adopted at a meeting of the members of the Legislature there at 1 o'clock to-day.

Appalling Disaster, Says Dix.

The Lieutenant Governor took up his office in that of Mayor McEwan. The other departments, which were driven out of the Capitol by the fire, established